

Wagner, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Margaret Wood Hassan, Mark Kelly, Richard J. Durbin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Brian Schatz, Debbie Stabenow, Angus S. King, Jr., Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Tim Kaine, Gary C. Peters, Chris Van Hollen, Edward J. Markey, Jeanne Shaheen, Jack Reed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

HONORING OUR PROMISE TO ADDRESS COMPREHENSIVE TOXICS ACT OF 2021—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 388, H.R. 3967.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 388, H.R. 3967, a bill to improve health care and benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 388, H.R. 3967, a bill to improve health care and benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Jon Tester, Benjamin L. Cardin, John W. Hickenlooper, Richard Blumenthal, Jack Reed, Bernard Sanders, Brian Schatz, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Martin Heinrich, Margaret Wood Hassan, Tammy Duckworth, Kyrsten Sinema, Patrick J. Leahy, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher A. Coons.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, May 26, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 707, 743, 769, 964, 894, 895, 905, and 906; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without in-

tervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the Record; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the en bloc nominations of Steven Scott Cliff, of California, to be Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; Andrew Fois, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States for a term of five years; Christopher A. Coes, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation; Benny R. Wagner, of Tennessee, to be Inspector General of the Tennessee Valley Authority; Denis Udall, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring April 15, 2023; Teresa Arrington Fox Udall, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2022; Denis Udall, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring April 15, 2029. (Reappointment); and Teresa Arrington Fox Udall, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring October 6, 2028. (Reappointment)?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 927 through 963 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. John P. Cogbill
Col. Geoffrey A. Norman
Col. Samuel L. Peterson

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment

in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Craig S. Gatzemeyer

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Robert B. Brodie
Col. Michael A. Brooks, Jr.
Col. Kevin G. Collins
Col. Fridrik Fridriksson
Col. Maura M. Hennigan
Col. Garrett R. Hoffman
Col. Stephen J. Lightfoot
Col. Andrew T. Priddy
Col. James A. Ryans, II
Col. David C. Walsh

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Milford H. Beagle, Jr.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C. section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. John D. Lamontagne

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Leonard J. Kosinski

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Steven L. Basham

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C. section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C. section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. John P. Sullivan

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment as Vice Chief of Naval Operations and appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 8035:

To be admiral

Vice Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Craig A. Clapperton

The following named officer for appointment as Chief of Naval Personnel and appointment in the United States Navy to the grade of vice admiral while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 8081:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Richard J. Cheeseman, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601, and for appointment as a Senior Member of the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations under title 10, U.S.C., section 711:

To be vice admiral

Vice Adm. Stephen T. Koehler

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Sara A. Joyner

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., Section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Andrea D. Tullos

IN THE SPACE FORCE

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Space Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Robert J. Hutt
Col. Anthony J. Mastalir
Col. Jacob Middleton, Jr.
Col. Kristen L. Panzenhagen
Col. Brian D. Sidari

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. James J. Kokaska, Jr.

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Lt. Gen. Gregory M. Guillot

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Alexis G. Grynkwich

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Richard G. Moore, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Michael J. Schmidt

The following named officer for appointment as Judge Advocate General of the Air Force and appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while serving in that position in accordance with title 10, U.S.C., sections 6010 and 9037:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Charles L. Plummer

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Steven W. Gilland

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Omar J. Jones, IV

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. James B. Jarrard

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Kevin Vereen

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Brian W. Cavanaugh

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Navy while serving as Chief Prosecutor for Military Commissions under article II, section 2, clause 2 of the United States Constitution and section 1037 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Aaron C. Rugh

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Frank M. Bradley

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Michael E. Boyle

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named Air National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in

the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Col. Jeremiah J. Cruz

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Jason B. Nicholson

Col. Patrick A. Teague

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Roger S. Giraud

Col. Lance C. Raney

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Gail E. Atkins
Col. Amanda I. Azubuike
Col. Phillip C. Baker
Col. Wayne E. Barker
Col. Maurice O. Barnett
Col. Matthew W. Brown
Col. Jonathan C. Byrom
Col. Steven P. Carpenter
Col. Rhett R. Cox
Col. Frederick L. Crist
Col. Dale S. Crockett
Col. Jason A. Curl
Col. Sean P. Davis
Col. James K. Doohan
Col. Antoinette R. Gant
Col. Bernard J. Harrington
Col. Daniel H. Hibner
Col. Gregory S. Johnson
Col. Martine S. Kidd
Col. Joseph G. Lock
Col. Francisco J. Lozano
Col. John W. Lubas
Col. Shane P. Morgan
Col. Kimberly A. Peebles
Col. Christopher D. Schneider
Col. Michael J. Simmering
Col. Jason C. Slider
Col. Marne L. Suttan
Col. Geoffrey R. Vanepps
Col. Brian D. Vile

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Paula C. Lodi

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Michael S. Cederholm

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1987 AIR FORCE nomination of Even Thomas Rogers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN2002 AIR FORCE nomination of Justine E. Feaster, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2023 AIR FORCE nomination of Joshua J. Kim, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2024 AIR FORCE nomination of Guilene C. Derisma, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2025 AIR FORCE nomination of Benjamin M. Pancoast, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2059 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning JONATHAN B. HABA, and ending ROBERT C. LIVINGSTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 5, 2022.

PN2060 AIR FORCE nomination of Ronald Hustwit, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 5, 2022.

PN2098 AIR FORCE nominations (420) beginning THOMAS E. ACCUOSTI, and ending SEAN L. ZOUFALY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2099 AIR FORCE nominations (79) beginning DANIEL STEPHEN ADAMS, and ending SPENCER G. WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2100 AIR FORCE nominations (211) beginning CODY L. ADKINS, and ending HONGHAO WU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2101 AIR FORCE nominations (1089) beginning MONICA C. ABONGAN, and ending ALEXIS B. ZUNIGA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2102 AIR FORCE nominations (385) beginning ZAHY Y. ABI CHAKER, and ending MATTHEW T. ZETTLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2103 AIR FORCE nominations (48) beginning ABIGAIL M. AKYEAMPONG, and ending NICHOLE L. YANG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2104 AIR FORCE nominations (165) beginning MYRON G. ACOSTA, and ending MOSHOOD A. YINUSA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2106 AIR FORCE nominations (25) beginning MEGAN E. ANDERSON, and ending BENJAMIN J. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2108 AIR FORCE nominations (139) beginning ARIF NASIR ALI, and ending JOHN THOMAS ZUPANCIC, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

PN2109 AIR FORCE nominations (227) beginning TIMOTHY M. AANERUD, and ending KRISTEN M. ZEIGLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 12, 2022.

IN THE ARMY

PN1462 ARMY nomination of Larry J. Saunders, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2021.

PN1988 ARMY nomination of Daphne C. Mitchell Wright, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1989 ARMY nomination of Devanie N. Johnson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1990 ARMY nomination of Ralph C. Merrill, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1991 ARMY nomination of Jason S. Wenger, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1992 ARMY nomination of Matthew T. Etheridge, which was received by the Senate

and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1993 ARMY nomination of David S. Yu, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1994 ARMY nomination of Victor F. Sorano, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1995 ARMY nomination of Laura A. Proffit, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1996 ARMY nomination of D011783, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN2003 ARMY nomination of Joseph F. Capetillo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2004 ARMY nomination of Joseph T. Reuben, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2005 ARMY nomination of Lyman S. Reynoldson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2006 ARMY nominations (6) beginning MARK J. BROOKS, and ending HAROLD G. WOOMER, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2007 ARMY nomination of Brian R. Seidel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2008 ARMY nominations (9) beginning STEVE BLACKWELL, and ending KEVIN J. PARK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2009 ARMY nomination of Wayne A. Dunlap, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2010 ARMY nomination of Brian M. Stieritz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2011 ARMY nomination of David C. Hilling, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2012 ARMY nomination of Christopher R. Thielenshaus, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2026 ARMY nominations (45) beginning VALERIA A. ANDERSON, and ending MELVILLE C. WILSON, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2027 ARMY nominations (250) beginning GLENN P. ADAMS, and ending ROBERT ZIZOLFO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2028 ARMY nominations (130) beginning TODD W. ATKINSON, and ending GEORGE E. ZUNIGA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2030 ARMY nomination of RJ X. Niesen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2031 ARMY nomination of Robert A. Kearney, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2032 ARMY nomination of Brandon S. Fletcher, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2033 ARMY nomination of Daniel S. Rhoades, which was received by the Senate

and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2035 ARMY nomination of Kirk J. Porter, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2036 ARMY nomination of John A. Mailman, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN1746 MARINE CORPS nominations (28) beginning MABEL L. BALDUF, and ending JIMMY J. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 31, 2022.

PN1649 NAVY nomination of Scott T. Wilbur, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 5, 2022.

PN1650 NAVY nomination of Ritchie L. Taylor, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of January 5, 2022.

PN1858 NAVY nomination of Neil Jain, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 10, 2022.

PN1997 NAVY nomination of Scott C. DeMarco, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN1998 NAVY nomination of David D. Novotney, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 25, 2022.

PN2013 NAVY nomination of Elizabeth C. Merrell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2014 NAVY nomination of Thomas M. Allen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2015 NAVY nomination of Coby S. Croft, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2016 NAVY nomination of Leonard E. Haynes, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2017 NAVY nomination of John P. Thompson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2018 NAVY nominations (2) beginning RYAN M. FITZGERALD, and ending MATTHEW C. WELCH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 28, 2022.

PN2038 NAVY nomination of Andrew E. Hinkley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2039 NAVY nomination of Thomas H. Wright, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2040 NAVY nomination of Robert D. Croxson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2061 NAVY nominations (21) beginning GREGORY J. ANDREWS, and ending KATHLEEN T. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 5, 2022.

PN2041 SPACE FORCE nominations (4) beginning KEITH M. MORRIS, and ending KEITH J. LASHOMB, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

PN2042 SPACE FORCE nominations (5) beginning JAMES D. BROOKS, and ending MAHESA B. SUPROBO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 2, 2022.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

ROBB ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, another mass shooting, another elementary school; 19 children, ages 7 through 10, gunned down; two adults killed. They were in our schools—an elementary school, a place that parents send their children expecting it to be a safe zone where they can learn and interact with other children and be safe from things like being attacked and shot. An elementary school we are talking about, the anguish of the families who have lost their children or lost their loved ones.

Children who witnessed this will be traumatized for life, scarred by what happened in Texas.

And then last week, we saw in Buffalo 10 people gunned down while shopping in a grocery store, very much racially motivated by a White supremacist. This is happening throughout our country.

We have had gun violence in Baltimore. A few years ago, we had gun violence at Great Oaks School in Maryland. We are seeing this happen over and over and over again.

I and all Marylanders and Americans are sad. We are angry; we are fearful; and we are frustrated. Yes, we have to deal with the mental health issues here; there is no question about that in my mind. Let me just point out for my colleagues that I join with Senator WYDEN and Senator CRAPO and Senator THUNE in releasing the draft on the telehealth recommendations as part of the mental health work that is being done by the Senate Finance Committee. Our Presiding Officer has been one of the leaders on this issue. We recognize we have to do more for mental health.

Our draft discussion documents are dealing with telehealth. We really learned during COVID-19 how valuable telehealth is for access to care. Individuals who could not get to their healthcare providers were able to do that through telehealth services. We also recognize how valuable telehealth services are in regard to mental health and behavioral health. It was gaining access that could have been denied before. This is all-important that we move forward on these recommendations. And we are looking at ways that we remove obstacles in the way for people in our community to be able to get telehealth services, removing some of the restrictions of the law prior to COVID-19 to make it easier not only for public insurance programs but private insurance programs to provide for telehealth.

By the way, as you know, we have other task forces that are working in regard to children's mental health needs. All of that is important. We need to move forward on extending the resources and access to mental health services so we can identify people in need, give them the services they need, and protect our communities.

But we need to do much more than mental health services in regard to

protecting Americans from gun violence. Let me quote from the Baltimore Sun's editorial this morning. It is titled "Real Insanity Is Doing Nothing About Assault Weapons Again."

The terrible tragedy raises all kinds of questions from the mental health of the killer, the inadequacy of community-based psychiatric care and the bullying by classmates that might have contributed to his instability to the failure of those around him to recognize this potential threat. But one element stands out above so many others: easy access to assault weapons.

This editorial was clearly done, I should have mentioned, with the Texas tragedy that occurred this week.

The United States is an outlier among the nations of the world. We stand alone on the number of guns we have per capita and amount of gun violence. That is not a category that we want to lead the world in, and we do. We have to take action. In 2021 alone, 45,000 Americans lost their life through gun violence. Of that number, over 20,000 were killed as a result of murder or homicide—20,000. Over 300 children lost their lives through gun violence in 2021.

As the Washington Post editorial noted in yesterday's editorial, the elementary school shooting in Texas was "one of at least 24 acts of gun violence of K-12 campuses so far this year in which at least 28 people have been killed . . . [this] came a day after a FBI report showing a sharp increase last year in active-shooter attacks nationwide. In 2020, for the first time, firearms became the leading cause of death for American children and teenagers, supplanting car accidents."

We lost our way. We need to do much more. How many children have to die before we act? When is enough enough? Congress needs to take up and pass commonsense gun safety legislation.

I am going to give a few examples of legislation I hope we can take up and consider. First, the Assault Weapons Ban Act. Ban the sale. We have legislation, S. 736, that bans the sale, manufacture, transfer, and importation of assault weapons, including military-style weapons.

The Baltimore Sun also talked about this. This is the Sunday paper's editorial:

These are not components one needs in self-defense, not the essentials required for target practice [or] local shooting range, not an asset [that] the average deer hunter [needs]. They are, however, the common tools of mass shooters. It's been estimated that about one-quarter of such incidents have involved individuals armed with assault weapons.

The public does not need assault weapons for self-defense. They don't need it for recreational use. They don't need it. These are military-style weapons and should have no place in private ownership. We should take action in order to make our communities safer and our children safer. We should pass the Bipartisan Background Check Expansion Act, which would require checks for all gun sales, including

those from unlicensed sellers. By the way, the House has already passed this action.

And we should pass the Enhanced Background Check Completion Act. That is an act that would eliminate the so-called Charleston loophole that allows for gun sales to go forward if a check is not completed within 3 days, which is an unrealistic requirement that we have.

These are just commonsense gun safety bills that could be passed. We should pass the Keep Americans Safe Act, S. 1108, which would prohibit importation, sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of magazines that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition. Why does anyone, for a lawful purpose, need an ammunition magazine that holds more than 10 rounds? The mass killers use it. We shouldn't make it easier for them to carry out these atrocities.

Let me just mention the one option that should not be on the table, and that option is to do nothing. How many children have to die before enough is enough? Doing nothing about the epidemic of guns across this country is killing our children. We must work together to translate our grief into collective action. Enough is enough. Let us act.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE LIVINGSTON AND GERTRUDE SVARNY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, it is Thursday, and it is the time of the week that I like to celebrate an amazing person or people in my State who are doing something great for Alaska, great for America, great for the world. It is someone I like to refer to as our Alaskan of the Week—or Alaskans of the Week, plural.

So we are doubling up this week because we have two Alaskans that we are going to be commemorating. And I want to acknowledge it has been a couple of rough weeks for America—we all know that—for reasons that are quite obvious. Some tempers here in the Senate have been flaring a little bit. So I wanted to end the week on what is really an incredible, uplifting story, an epic story. It is a bit complicated, so you have to pay attention if you are wanting to hear about just a remarkable course of events in Alaska.

And it is a particularly poignant story as we head into Memorial Day weekend, a time when we honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. And I am going to tell, as I mentioned, a very special Memorial Day story—a